

jc572 U.S. PTO  
03/24/98

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 0417MH-26063

In re Application of: §  
JAN SCOTT ZWOLINSKI § Examiner:  
Serial No. §  
Filed: 24 MARCH 1998 § Art Unit:  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS §  
FOR PROVIDING A HANDHELD §  
SCANNER-DICTIONARY APPARATUS §

TRANSMITTAL

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Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Enclosed find:

- Patent Application and claims;
- Eleven (11) sheets of drawings;
- Declaration;
- Check for \$395.00 for the basic filing fee;
- PTO-1449, Information Disclosure Statement and cited reference
- Our return postcard, which we would appreciate your date-stamping and returning to us upon receipt.

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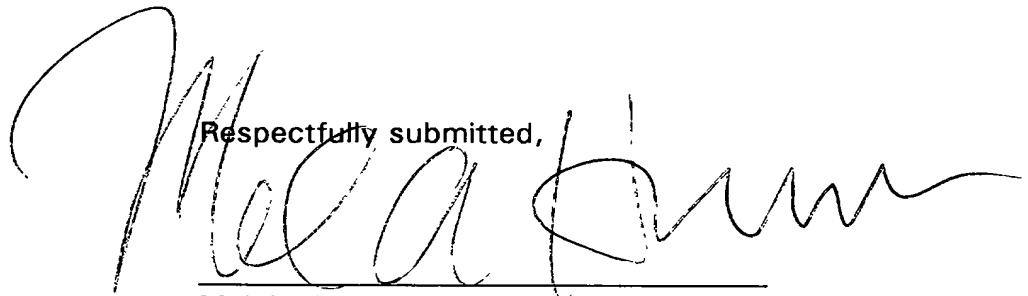
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Please conduct all correspondence in the above matter with:

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S P E C I F I C A T I O N

Docket No. 0417MH-26063

**TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

BE IT KNOWN that I, **JAN SCOTT ZWOLINSKI**, a citizen of the United States of America, residing in the City of Graford, Texas, have invented new and useful improvements in a

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING A HANDHELD  
SCANNER-DICTIONARY APPARATUS**

of which the following is a specification:

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## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1       1. **Cross-Reference to Related Application:**

2               This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application  
3               Serial No. 60/041,534; filed 25 March 1997, entitled ***Method and Apparatus for***  
4               ***Providing a Handheld Scanner-Dictionary Apparatus.***

5       2. **Field of the Invention:**

6               The present invention relates in general to portable electronic devices,  
7               and particularly to portable electronic devices which are useful for providing  
8               dictionary and/or translation functions for a reader.

9       3. **Description of the Prior Art:**

10               Readers frequently incur words in reading material which they do  
11               not fully understand. Their options are to utilize a conventional dictionary to  
12               look up the words, or a handheld keypad-type dictionary device in order to look  
13               up the words electronically. Both have their disadvantages. The conventional  
14               dictionary requires a reader to manipulate a relatively cumbersome device and  
15               locate the entry by turning pages. The electronic device requires the reader to  
16               directly key in the word for which he/she seeks a definition.

## **SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

2 It is one objective of the present invention to provide a portable handheld  
3 device which combines the functions of a scanner with a portable electronic dictionary  
4 device with an LCD or other display for displaying the definition of the word that has been  
5 scanned in with the device.

6 It is another objective of the present invention to provide the handheld  
7 scanner dictionary with an optional keypad operation which allows the user to physically  
8 manipulate a keypad or to utilize a stylus and a graphical user interface keypad in order  
9 to key in the word for which a definition is sought.

10 It is another objective of the present invention to provide a handheld  
11 scanner-dictionary which includes an alternative voice operation which utilizes a micro-  
12 phone and a speech-to-text module to receive a word as an input. The handheld scanner-  
13 dictionary will then retrieve the definition and either voice-announce the definition or  
14 display the definition in an LCD display, or a combination of voice-announce and display.

15 It is another objective of the present invention to combine the above-  
16 identified features of the handheld scanner-dictionary with a conventional pager.

17 It is another objective of the present invention to provide the above-identified  
18 handheld scanner-dictionary with a translation function which fetches a foreign language  
19 definition of a particular word that is input into the device.

20 It is yet another objective of the present invention to provide the above-  
21 identified handheld scanner-dictionary with conventional clock and alarm functions.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING**

2                   **Figure 1A** is a pictorial representation of one particular embodiment of the  
3 handheld scanner-dictionary of the present invention with a detachable keyboard.

4                   **Figure 1B** is a pictorial representation of a book.

5                   **Figure 1C** is a pictorial representation of an alternative embodiment of the  
6 handheld scanner-dictionary with an enlarged display area which allows the utilization of  
7 a graphical user interface touch screen keyboard input device.

8                   **Figure 2** is a block diagram representation of the preferred handheld scanner-  
9 dictionary of the present invention.

10                  **Figures 3A and 3B** are flowchart representations of scanning operations  
11 utilizing the handheld scanner-dictionary of the present invention.

12                  **Figures 4A and 4B** are flowchart representations of keypad input operations  
13 utilizing the improved handheld scanner-dictionary of the present invention.

14                  **Figures 5A and 5B** are flowchart representations of voice input operations  
15 utilizing the handheld scanner-dictionary of the present invention.

16                  **Figure 6** is a flowchart representation of pager operations utilizing the  
17 handheld scanner-dictionary of the present invention.

18                  **Figure 7** is a flowchart representation of translation function operations  
19 utilizing the scanner-dictionary of the present invention.

1                   **Figure 8** is a flowchart representation of the clock and alarm functions  
2 utilizing the handheld scanner-dictionary of the present invention.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

2                   The handheld scanner-dictionary of the present invention is a device which  
3                   makes it easy for a reader to "look up" a word encountered during reading with which the  
4                   reader is unfamiliar or for which the reader desires a precise definition. The handheld  
5                   scanner-dictionary of the present invention is greatly advantageous over the prior art in  
6                   that it is easy to use and thus encourages and enhances the reader's quest for an  
7                   increased or enhanced vocabulary.

8                   The handheld scanner-dictionary of the present invention includes several  
9                   modes of operation. In a scanning input mode of operation, a scanning device is utilized  
10                  to scan text into the handheld scanner-dictionary, much in the way that a handheld bar  
11                  code reader is used to "wand" product information into a cash register. The handheld  
12                  scanner-dictionary will fetch from memory a dictionary definition corresponding to the  
13                  scanned word. The dictionary definition is provided to the reader through either an LCD  
14                  display and/or an audio output device, such as a speaker. This way, the reader may  
15                  either read the definition or hear the definition, whichever is more convenient.

16                  Another mode of operation is a keypad input mode of operation in which a  
17                  keypad is utilized to input the word for which a definition is sought. A detachable  
18                  keyboard may be utilized to physically input the characters of the word for which a defini-  
19                  tion is sought. Alternatively, a graphical user interface may be provided in the LCD  
20                  display, which operates as a touch screen. A graphical display of a keyboard may be  
21                  displayed in the LCD device, and the operator may utilize a stylus to sequentially enter  
22                  the letters which make up the word for which a definition is sought.

23                  In yet another alternative mode of operation, the handheld scanner-dictionary  
24                  may be operated in a manner which allows for the voice input of the word for which a

1 definition is sought. In this mode of operation, a microphone and speech-to-text module  
2 is utilized to determine the input word for which a definition is sought.

3 Several alternative operations are also provided in the handheld scanner-  
4 dictionary, such as: a pager mode of operation, a translation mode of operation, and a  
5 clock/alarm mode of operation. These modes of operation and functions will now be  
6 described with reference to the figures.

7 **Figure 1A** is a pictorial representation of one embodiment of the handheld  
8 scanner-dictionary 11 of the present invention. As is shown, the handheld scanner-  
9 dictionary 11 includes a tapered end 13 which terminates at a scanner input 17, and an  
10 elongated rectangular portion 15 with user input buttons 19, display 21, and audio output  
11 device 20. In the view of **Figure 1A**, display 21 is shown as displaying an input word 31  
12 and associated definition 33. Also, as is shown in **Figure 1A**, a detachable keyboard 23,  
13 which includes individually operable keys 25, is electrically connected to handheld  
14 scanner-dictionary 11. The word for which a definition is sought may be input through  
15 either scanner 17 or detachable keyboard 23. Audio output device 20 may serve a dual  
16 function: it may serve as a microphone, and it may serve as a speaker. When audio  
17 output device 20 serves as a microphone, the handheld scanner-dictionary 11 may be  
18 operated in a voice-input mode of operation wherein the user announces a word as an  
19 input to the handheld scanner-dictionary, and the handheld scanner-dictionary 11 utilizes  
20 speech-to-text conversion to generate the word, and then look up the definition of the  
21 word and either display it or generate an audio output of the definition.

22 **Figure 1B** is a pictorial representation of book 27. As is shown, book 27  
23 includes textual material, including the word "port". In accordance with the present  
24 invention, the handheld scanner-dictionary 11 may be utilized to scan in the word "port"

1       **29** and generate a definition either in display **21** or as an output from audio output device  
2       **20**.

3                   **Figure 1C** depicts an alternative embodiment of the handheld scanner-  
4       dictionary **41**, wherein tapered end **43** terminates at scanning input **47** and body section  
5       **45** is larger than in the previous embodiment in order to accommodate a larger display **49**  
6       which may be utilized to present a graphical user interface, touch screen display of a  
7       keypad. Graphical user interface display **51** displays the characters which may be  
8       selected through utilization of stylus **53** in a conventional manner.

9                   **Figure 2** is a block diagram representation of the components which make  
10      up handheld scanner-dictionary **11**, **41** of Figures **1A** and **1C**. The handheld scanner-  
11      dictionary includes a central processing unit **101** and associated power circuit **119**, clock  
12      circuit **121**, ROM **103**, and RAM **105**, as is conventional. CPU **101** is also communica-  
13      tively coupled to infrared receiver/transmitter **117** which may be utilized in a conventional  
14      manner to communicate through an infrared link to a desktop or laptop computer in order  
15      to exchange data. Optical reader circuit **107** is provided, which provides its output to  
16      signal processing circuit **109**. Characters may be scanned utilizing the optical reader  
17      circuit **107**. The signal is processed at signal processing circuit **109** and provided to  
18      central processing unit **101**. CPU **101** is also connected to microphone **113** through  
19      signal processing circuit **115**. In the voice-input mode of operation, microphone **113** is  
20      utilized to detect voice-enunciated words. Signal processing circuit **115** utilizes a con-  
21      ventional speech-to-text system to generate a textual word from the detected voice input,  
22      and provide that textual word to CPU **101**. CPU **101** is also connected to operator input  
23      **123** which includes a number of dedicated buttons for commanding and controlling the  
24      handheld scanner-dictionary. Such buttons include "On" button **125**, "Off" button **127**,  
25      "Scroll Up" button **129**, "Scroll Down" button **131**, "Audio On" button **133**, and any  
26      other conventional or novel command buttons that are desired. CPU **101** is also con-

1 nected to audio driver 135 which drives audio output device 137. When the operator  
2 selects the "Audio On" button, CPU 101 will generate signals which actuate audio driver  
3 135 to energize audio output device 137 to provide a voice definition for the particular  
4 word selected. CPU 101 is also connected to LCD display 139 which provides a display  
5 of the definition of the word received as an input at the handheld scanner-dictionary  
6 device. A touch screen function 141 is provided in order to allow a stylus to be utilized  
7 to interact with a graphical user interface in order to key in the characters which make  
8 up an input word. Alternatively, CPU 101 is connected to detachable keypad 111 which  
9 may be utilized for typing in the input word. As is discussed above, the handheld  
10 scanner-dictionary of the present invention may be utilized in combination with a pager.  
11 In this particular function, an RF receiver 143 is provided which communicates with  
12 paging circuit 145 which is communicatively coupled to CPU 101. The pager operates  
13 in a conventional manner.

14 Figures 3A and 3B are flowchart representations of the scanning input mode  
15 of operation of the handheld scanner-dictionary of the present invention. The process  
16 begins at software block 201 and continues at software block 203, wherein operator  
17 input is monitored. In accordance with software blocks 205 and 209, the handheld  
18 scanner-dictionary monitors to determine whether the operator has turned the device on,  
19 and whether the operator has selected the audio output mode of operation. If the device  
20 is turned on, the power-up device software module 207 is activated. If the audio output  
21 is selected, the software module of activate audio 211 is activated. In accordance with  
22 software block 213, the handheld scanner-dictionary monitors operator input to determine  
23 whether a wand operation has commenced. In other words, the handheld scanner-  
24 dictionary determines whether a scanning operation has commenced. Once the scanning  
25 operation has been detected, the optical reader is activated in accordance with software  
26 block 215, the text is processed in accordance with software block 217, the text is  
27 passed to the CPU 101 in accordance with software block 219, and CPU 101 fetches the

1 definition from ROM in accordance with software block **221**. Next, in accordance with  
2 software block **223**, the handheld scanner-dictionary generates an audio driver signal and  
3 an LCD display signal. In accordance with software block **225**, these signals are pushed  
4 to the audio output device and to the LCD display. Then, in accordance with software  
5 blocks **227**, **231**, the handheld scanner-dictionary monitors operator input to determine  
6 whether scrolling operations have been requested. Additionally, the handheld scanner-  
7 dictionary monitors to determine whether a repeat of the definition has been requested.  
8 If those functions are requested, scrolling is performed in accordance with software block  
9 **229**, and repeat of the audio messages is generated in accordance with software block  
10 **233**. Finally, in accordance with software block **235**, the process ends.

11 **Figures 4A and 4B** are flowchart representations of the keypad mode of  
12 operation. The process begins at software block **251** and continues at software block  
13 **253**, wherein the handheld scanner-dictionary monitors for operator input. In accordance  
14 with software blocks **255**, **257**, **259**, and **261**, the handheld scanner-dictionary monitors  
15 for operator input, for powering up the device, and for activation of the audio output  
16 mode of operation. Then, in accordance with software block **263**, the handheld scanner-  
17 dictionary monitors for operator selection of the keypad input. Then, in accordance with  
18 software block **265**, the handheld scanner-dictionary monitors to determine whether the  
19 detachable keypad is connected. If the detachable keypad is not connected, control  
20 passes to software block **267**, wherein the handheld scanner-dictionary generates a  
21 graphical user interface keypad and activates the touch-screen function in order to allow  
22 the operator to utilize a stylus (or, alternatively, his/her finger) in order to select  
23 characters as an input to the handheld scanner-dictionary. Next, in accordance with  
24 software blocks **269**, **271**, and **273**, the CPU fetches the definition of the word from  
25 ROM, generates an audio driver signal and an LCD display signal, and pushes these  
26 signals to the audio output and to the LCD display grid. Then, in accordance with soft-  
27 ware blocks **275**, **277**, **279**, and **281**, the handheld scanner-dictionary monitors for

1 operator selection of the scrolling function or repeating of the audio output of the  
2 definition of the input text. Then, the process ends at software block **283**.

3 **Figures 5A and 5B** are flowchart representations of the voice-input mode of  
4 operation. The process begins at software block **301** and continues at software blocks  
5 **303, 305, 307, 309, and 311**, wherein the handheld scanner dictionary monitors  
6 operator input and determines whether the operator has activated the handheld scanner-  
7 dictionary, and selected the audio output mode of operation. Then, in accordance with  
8 software block **313**, the handheld scanner-dictionary monitors to determine whether the  
9 operator has selected a voice-input mode of operation. If so, the process continues at  
10 software block **315**, wherein the handheld scanner-dictionary activates the microphone  
11 function. Next, in accordance with software block **317**, the handheld scanner-dictionary  
12 processes the audio input and, in accordance with software block **319**, fetches the def-  
13 inition of the input word from ROM. Then, in accordance with software block **321**, the  
14 handheld scanner-dictionary generates an audio driver signal and an LCD display signal  
15 which is pushed to the audio output and LCD display in accordance with software block  
16 **323**. Finally, in accordance with software blocks **325, 327, 329, and 331**, the handheld  
17 scanner-dictionary monitors to determine whether the operator has selected the scrolling  
18 mode of operation or if the operator has requested a repeat playing of the audio output  
19 of the word definition. The process ends at software block **333**.

20 **Figure 6** is a flowchart representation of the pager operation of the handheld  
21 scanner-dictionary in accordance with the present invention. The process begins at  
22 software block **351** and continues at software block **353**, wherein the handheld scanner-  
23 dictionary monitors the radio frequency receiver. In accordance with software block **355**,  
24 the handheld scanner-dictionary determines whether a page has been received. If so,  
25 control passes to software block **357**, wherein the received page is compared to the  
26 pager ID. In accordance with software block **359**, the handheld scanner-dictionary

1 compares the two to determine whether a match occurs. If a match occurs, control  
2 passes to software **363**, wherein the CPU is alerted to the incoming page. Then, in  
3 accordance with software block **365**, the CPU generates an audio response and an LCD  
4 display of the page information, as is conventional. In accordance with software block  
5 **367**, the handheld scanner-dictionary announces the page utilizing the audio response and  
6 LCD display, and the process ends at software block **369**.

7 **Figure 7** is a flowchart representation of the translation function of the  
8 handheld scanner-dictionary of the present invention. The process commences at  
9 software block **401** and continues at software block **403**, wherein the handheld scanner-  
10 dictionary is provided with a search word. This search word may be received via the  
11 scanning input, the keyboard input, or the audio input, as discussed above. In  
12 accordance with software block **405**, the handheld scanner dictionary determines whether  
13 the translation function has been requested. If so, control passes to software block **407**,  
14 wherein the language options are announced or displayed. Then, in accordance with soft-  
15 ware block **409**, the handheld scanner-dictionary monitors for the language selection. In  
16 this manner, a handheld scanner-dictionary may be programmed to provide translations  
17 into several different languages. In accordance with software block **411**, an audio  
18 response and display is generated which provides the foreign language translation in both  
19 human-perceptible text in the display and human-perceptible audio output from the audio  
20 output device. The process ends at software block **413**.

21 **Figure 8** is a flowchart representation of the clock/alarm function of the  
22 handheld scanner-dictionary of the present invention. The process begins at software  
23 block **415**, commences at software block **417** wherein the handheld scanner-dictionary  
24 determines the clock/alarm has been selected. As is conventional with clock/alarm  
25 devices, user is presented with a variety of options, including setting the clock in  
26 accordance with software blocks **419**, **421**, setting the alarm in accordance with

- 1 software blocks **423, 425**, and displaying the clock according to software blocks **427**,
- 2 **429**. The process ends at software block **431**.

## 1 WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

2 1. A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus, comprising:

3 (a) a relatively small housing adapted in size to be held in one hand by a user

4 during use;

5 (b) a scanning input carried by said housing;

6 (c) a display carried by said housing;

7 (d) a controller disposed within said housing and operatively coupled to said

8 scanning input, and said display; and

9 (e) a program composed of instructions which are executable by said controller

10 for receiving as an input text scanned by said scanning input and for

11 providing as an output on said display text which is logically related to said

12 input text in a predetermined manner.

1       2.    A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said  
2       program receives as an input text scanned by said scanning input and produces as an  
3       output on said display at least one dictionary definition related to said input.

4       3.    A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said  
5       program receives as an input text scanned by said scanning input and produces as an  
6       output on said display at last one translation related to said input.

7       4.    A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said  
8       relatively small housing comprises a relatively small and generally elongated housing  
9       which is adapted in size and shape to be held in one hand by a user during use.

10      5.    A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:  
11            an input connection for coupling to an external keyboard, and for providing  
12            textual input to said controller.

13      6.    A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein said  
14       program includes instructions which are executable by said controller for alteratively  
15       receiving as an input text which is entered on a keyboard and which provides as an  
16       output on said display text which is logically related to said input text in a predetermined  
17       manner.

18      7.    A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:  
19            (f)    at least one user control button carried by said housing and operable for  
20            providing at least one control command to said controller.

1 8. A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:  
2 (f) an audio output device carried by said housing and operatively coupled to  
3 said controller; and  
4 (g) a test-to-speech module coupled between said audio output device and  
5 said controller;  
6 (h) wherein said program includes program instructions for receiving as an input  
7 text scanned by said scanning input and for producing as an output on said  
8 audio output device an audible output which is logically related to said input  
9 text in a predetermined manner.

10 9. A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said  
11 program receives as an input text scanned by said scanning input and produces as an  
12 output on said audio output device at least one audible output definition related to said  
13 input in a predetermined manner.

14 10. A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said  
15 program receives as an input text scanned by said scanning input and produces as an  
16 output on said audio output device at least one audible output translation related to said  
17 input in a predetermined manner.

18 11. A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus according to Claim 8, further comprising:  
19 an input connection for coupling to an external keyboard, and for providing  
20 textual input to said controller; and  
21 wherein said program includes instructions which are executable by said  
22 controller for alternatively receiving as an input text which is entered on a keyboard and  
23 which provides as an output on said display text which is logically related to said input  
24 text in a predetermined manner.

1 12. A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus, according to Claim 1, further  
2 comprising:

3 (f) a microphone input operatively coupled to said controller;  
4 (g) a speech-to-text module for receiving a voice input from said microphone  
5 input and for providing a corresponding text input to said controller; and  
6 (h) wherein said program includes program instructions for receiving as an input  
7 the output of said speech-to-text module and for producing as an output at  
8 least one of (a) an audible output on said audio output device which is  
9 logically related to said input text in a predetermined manner; and (b) a text  
10 output on said display which is logically related to said input text in a  
11 predetermined manner.

12 13. A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus according to Claim 12, wherein said  
13 program produces as an output at least one definition related to said input.

14 14. A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus according to Claim 12, wherein said  
15 program receives an output at least one translation related to said input.

16 15. A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus according to Claim 12, further  
17 comprising:

18 an input connection for coupling to an external keyboard, and for providing  
19 textual input to said controller; and  
20 wherein said program includes instructions which are executable by said  
21 controller for alternatively receiving as an input text which is entered on a keyboard and  
22 which provides an audible output on said audio output device which is logically related  
23 to said input text in a predetermined manner.

1 16. A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:

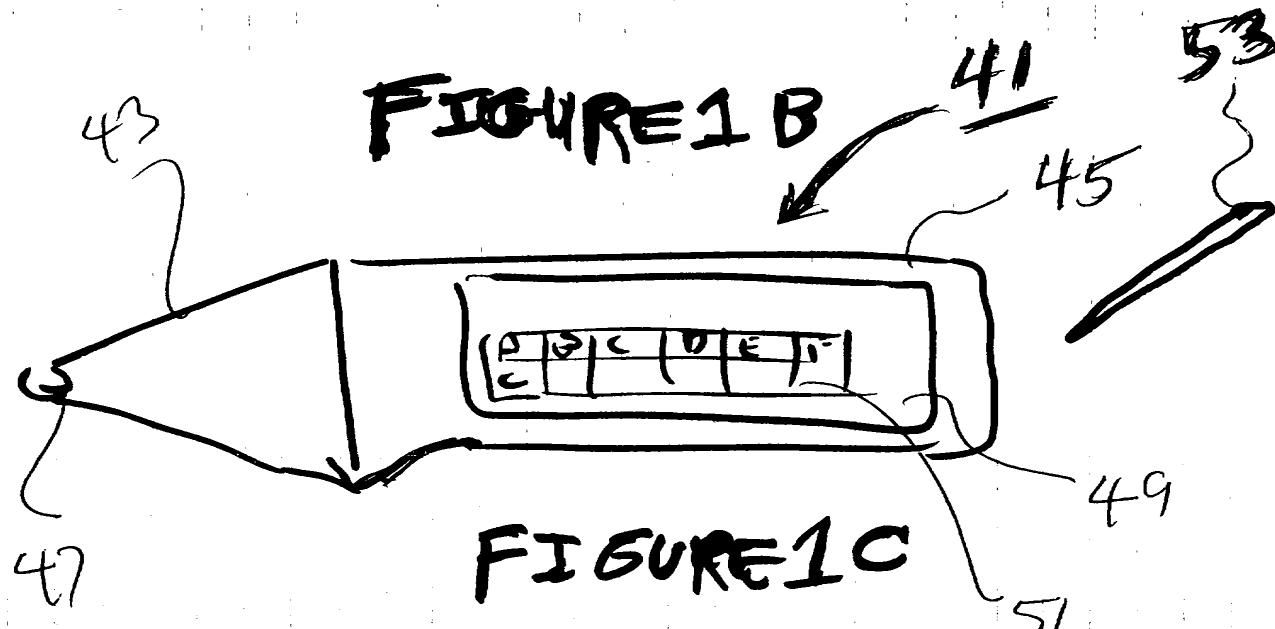
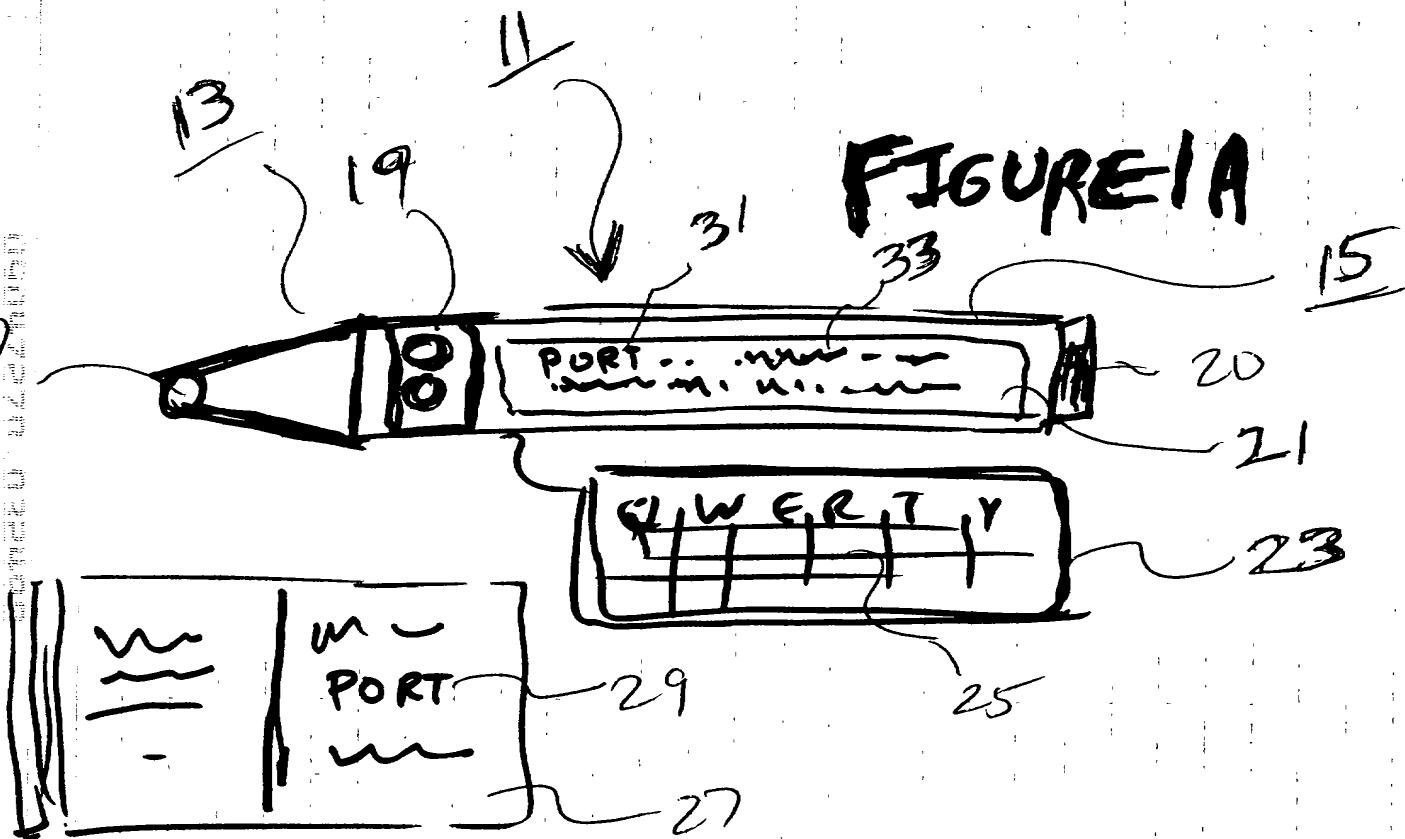
2 (g) a paging module operatively coupled to said controller.

3 17. A handheld scanning dictionary apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising;

4 (f) a set of program instructions executable by said controller for generating a  
5 touch screen graphical user input for receiving at least one input from user  
6 interaction with said display.

PATENT SKETCH FORM

Attorney \_\_\_\_\_



**FIGURE 1C**

PATENT SKETCH FORM

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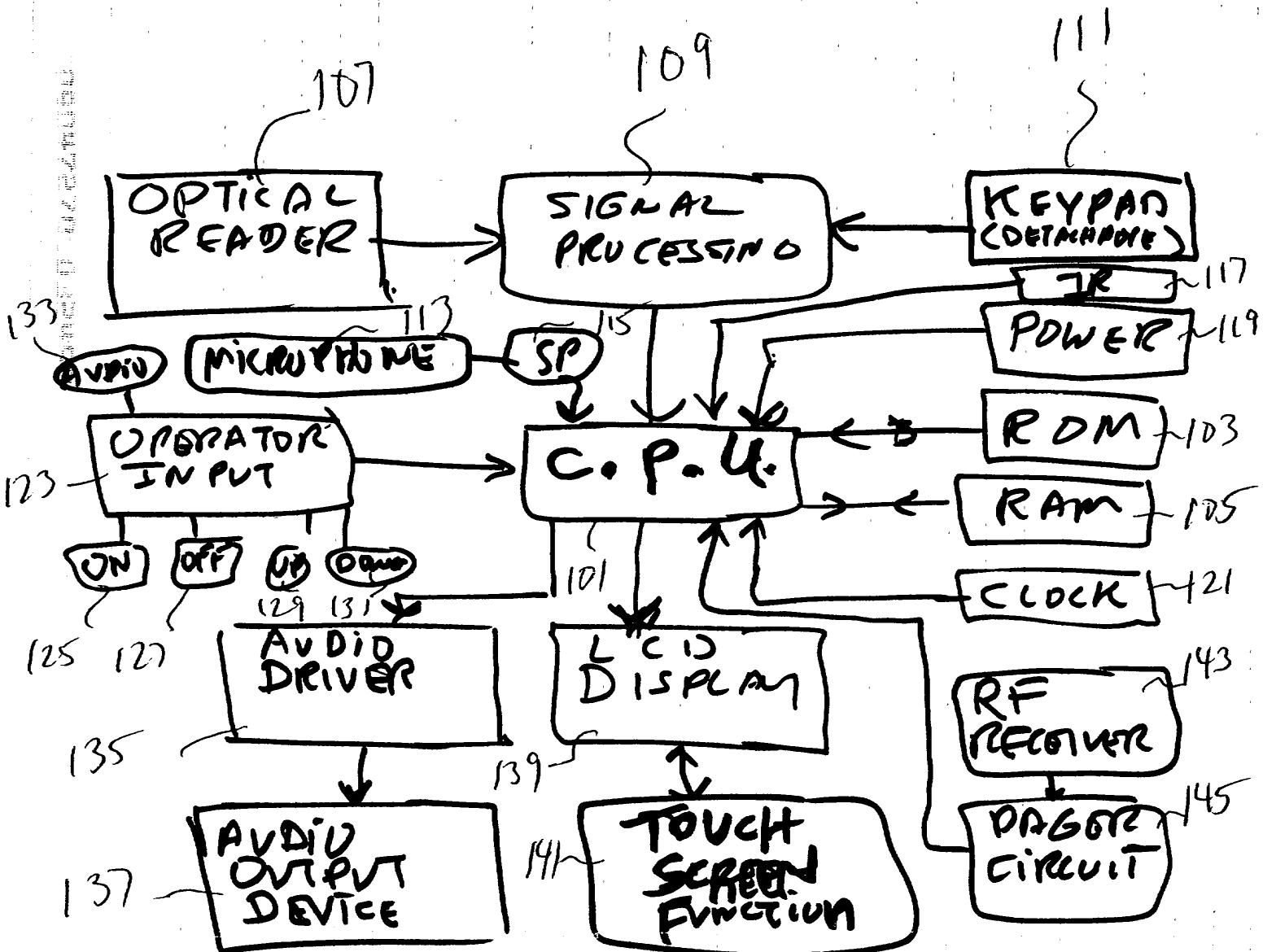


FIGURE 2

PATENT SKETCH FORM

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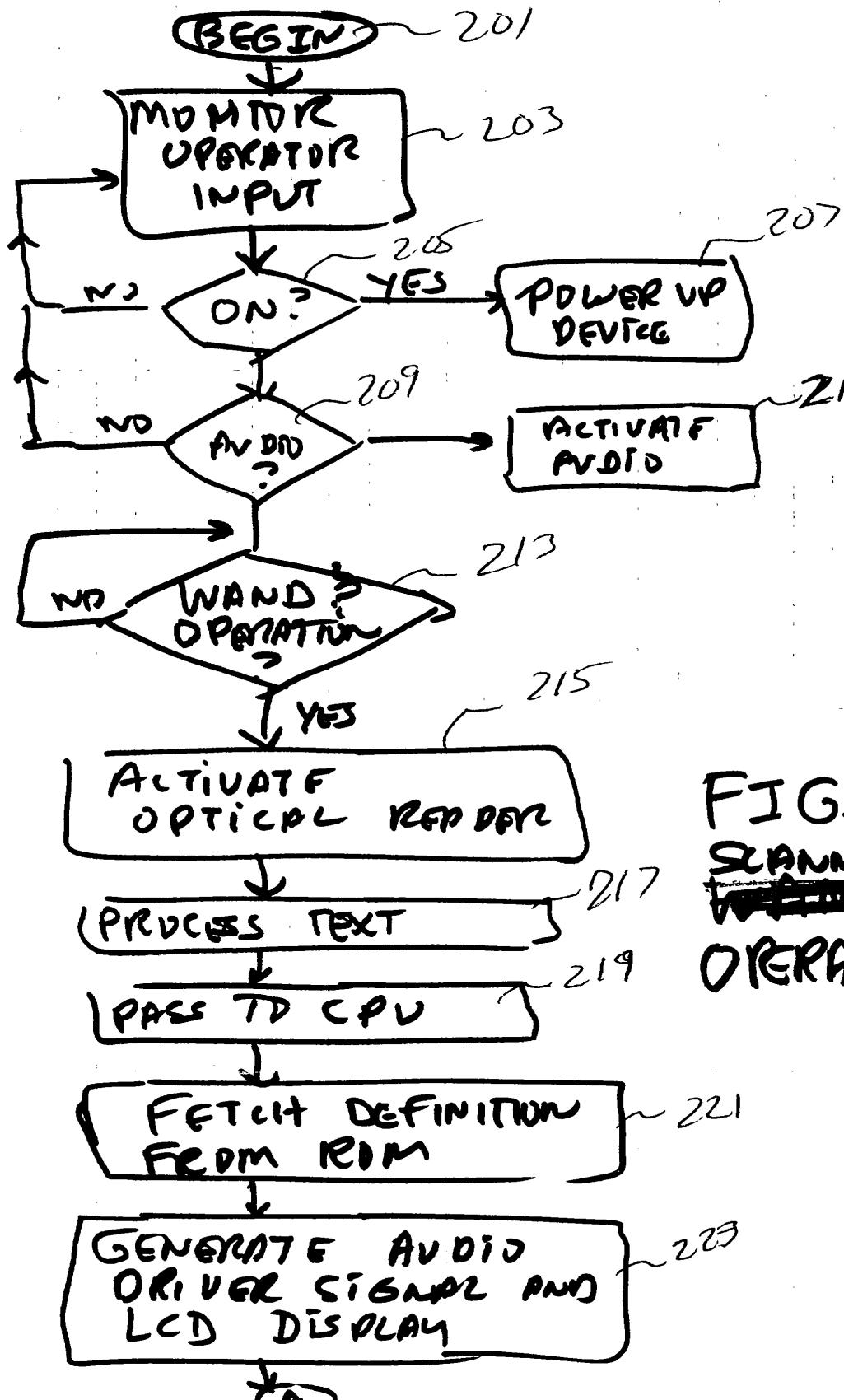


FIG3A  
SCANNING  
~~INPUT~~  
OPERATION

PATENT SKETCH FORM

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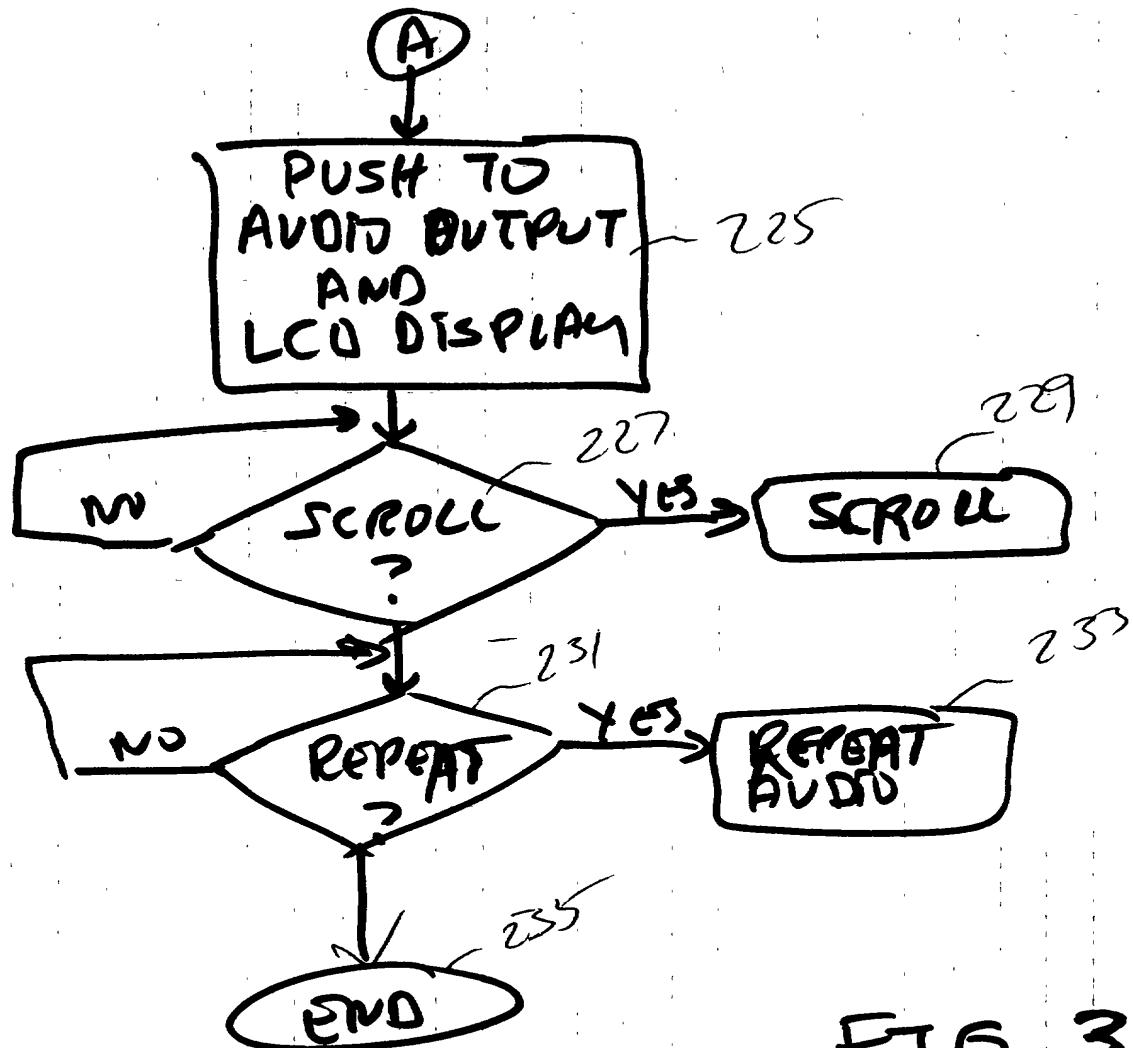
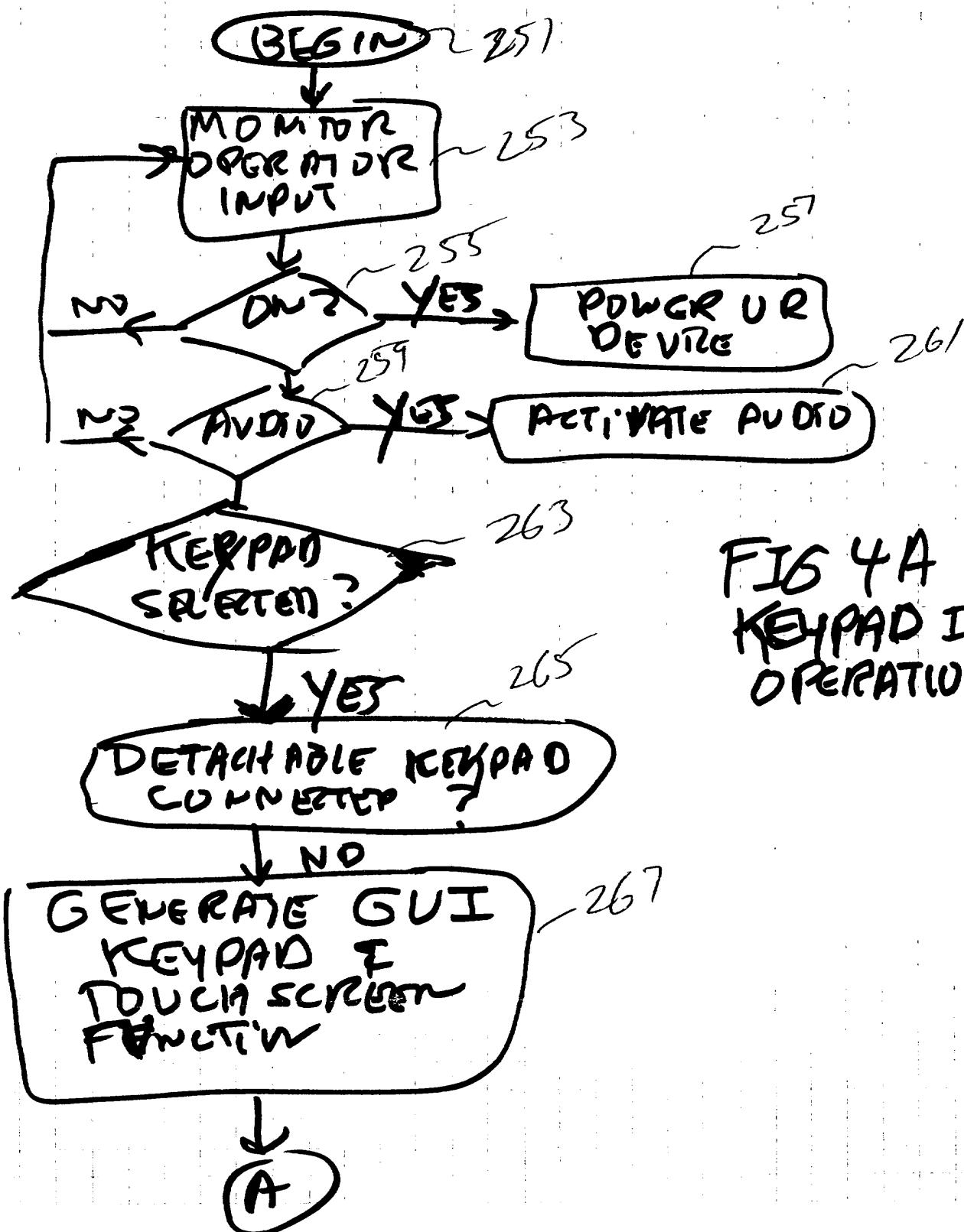


FIG 3B

PATENT SKETCH FORM

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PATENT SKETCH FORM

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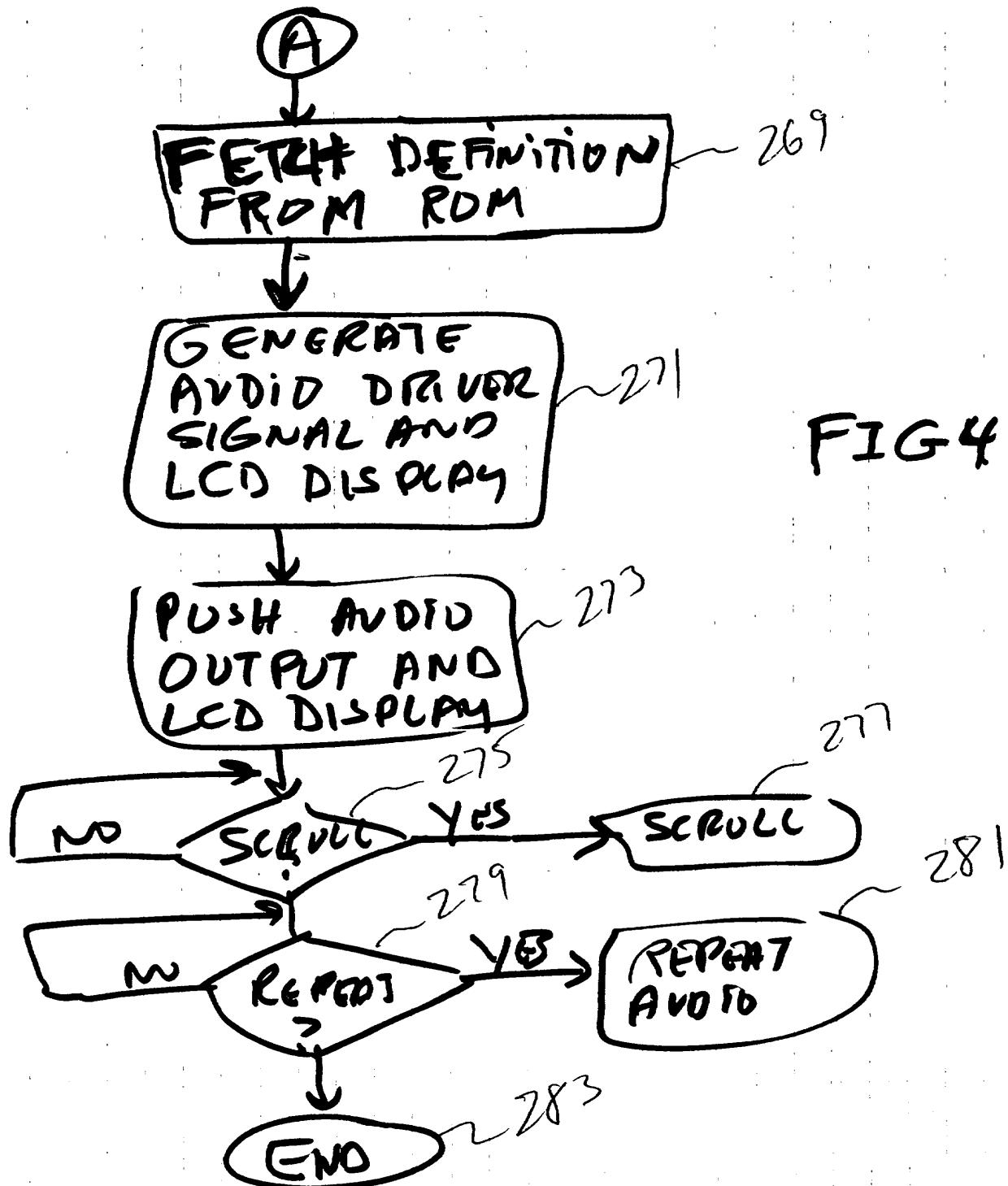
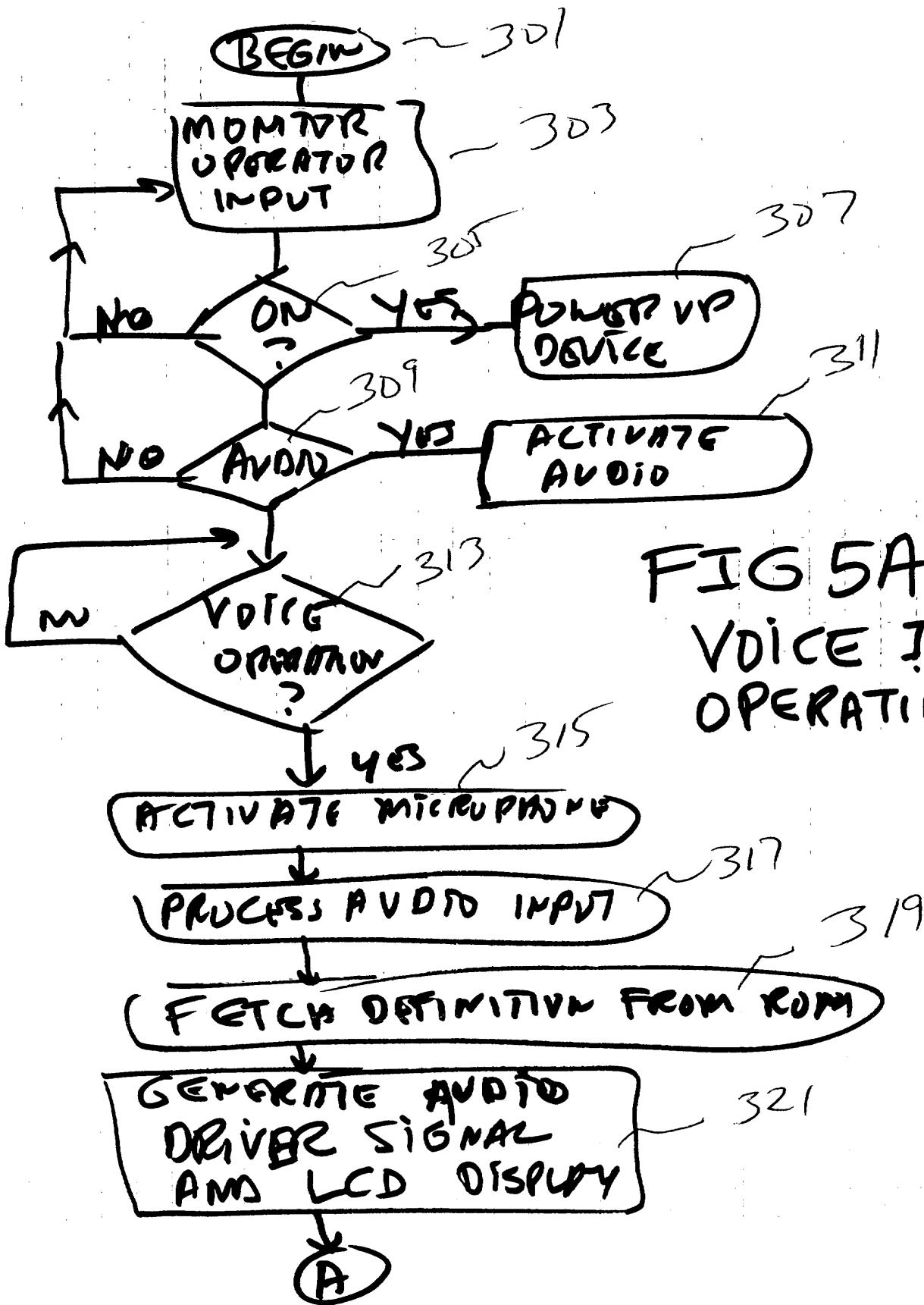


FIG 4B

PATENT SKETCH FORM

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PATENT SKETCH FORM

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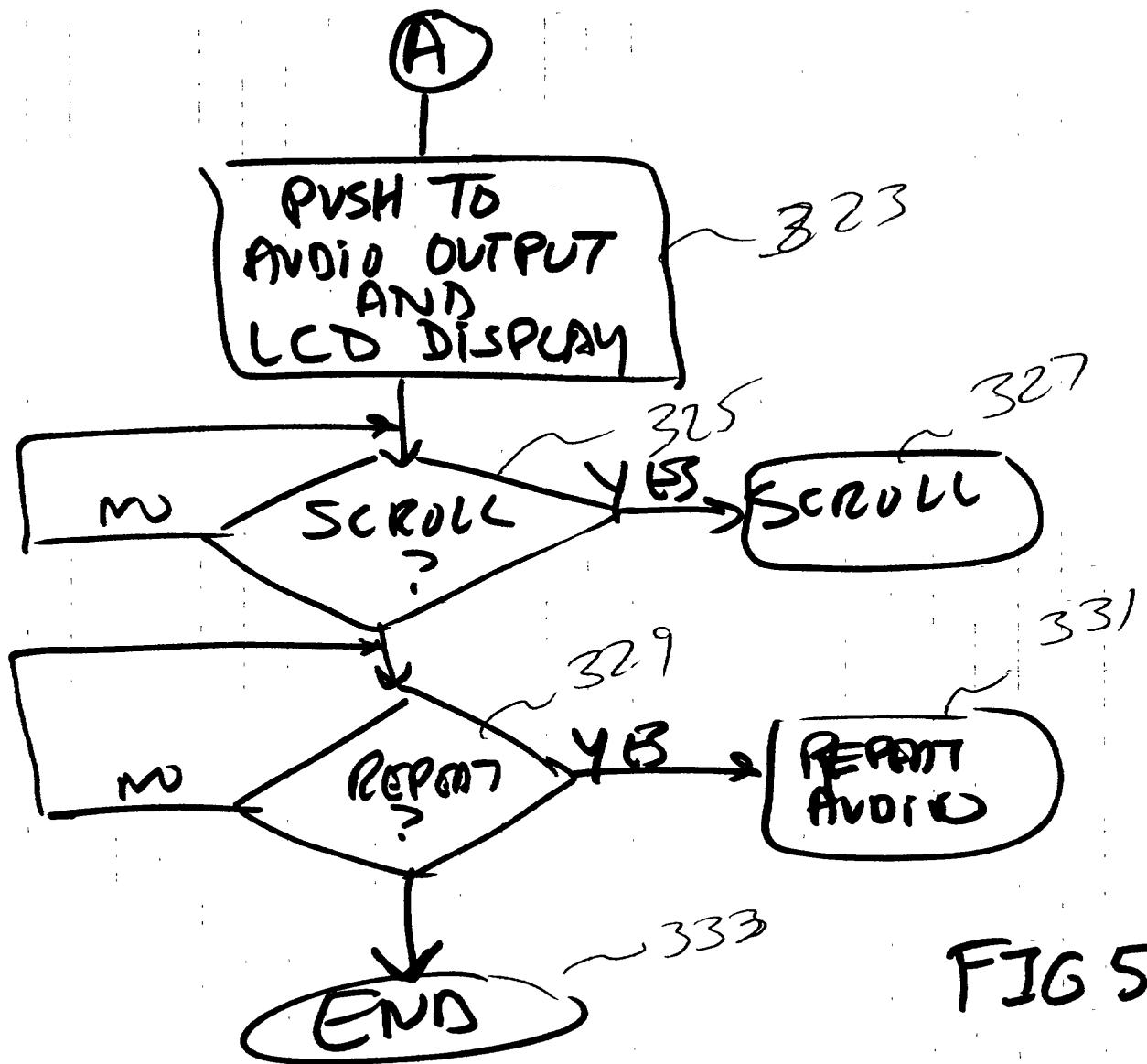


FIG 58

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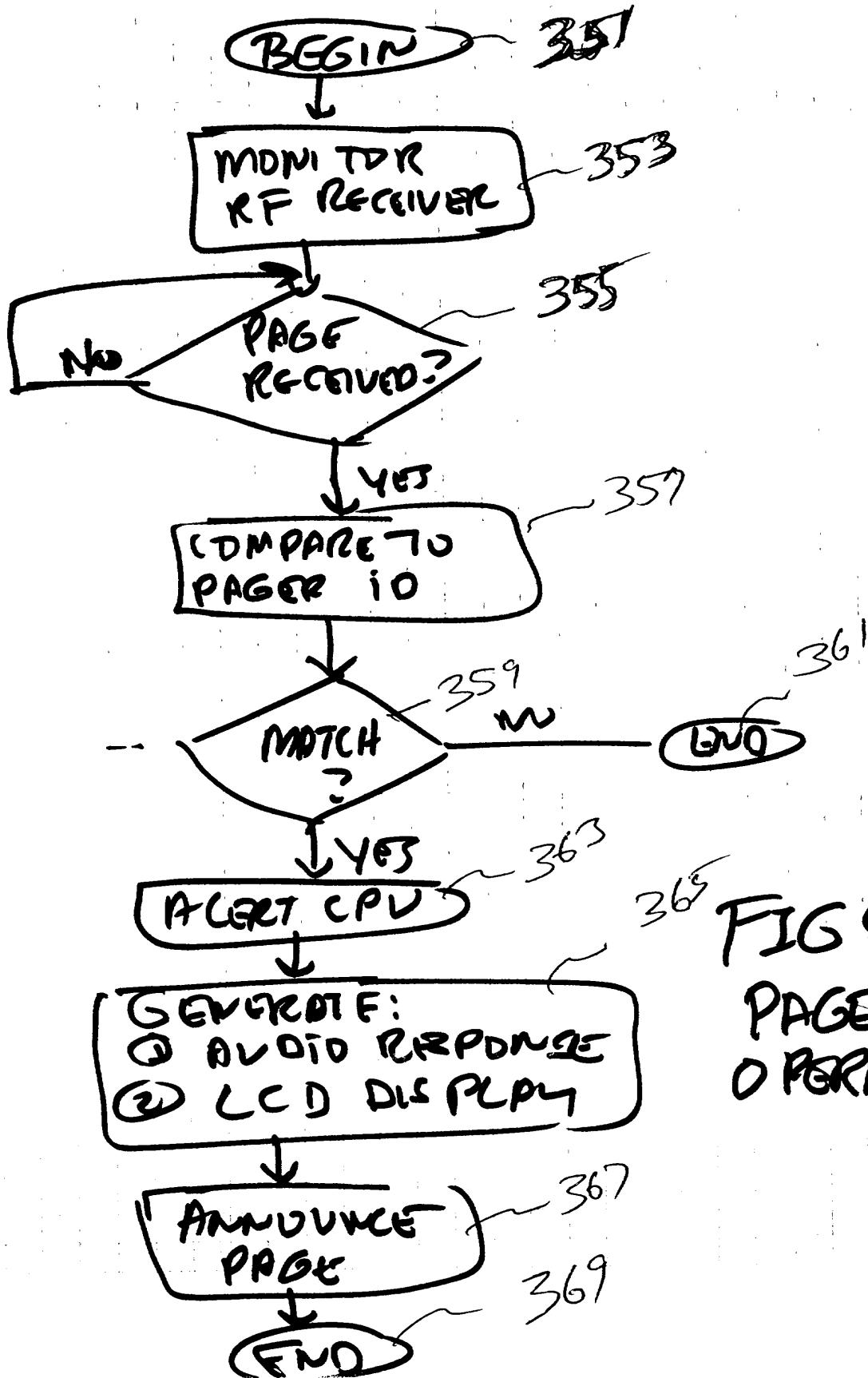
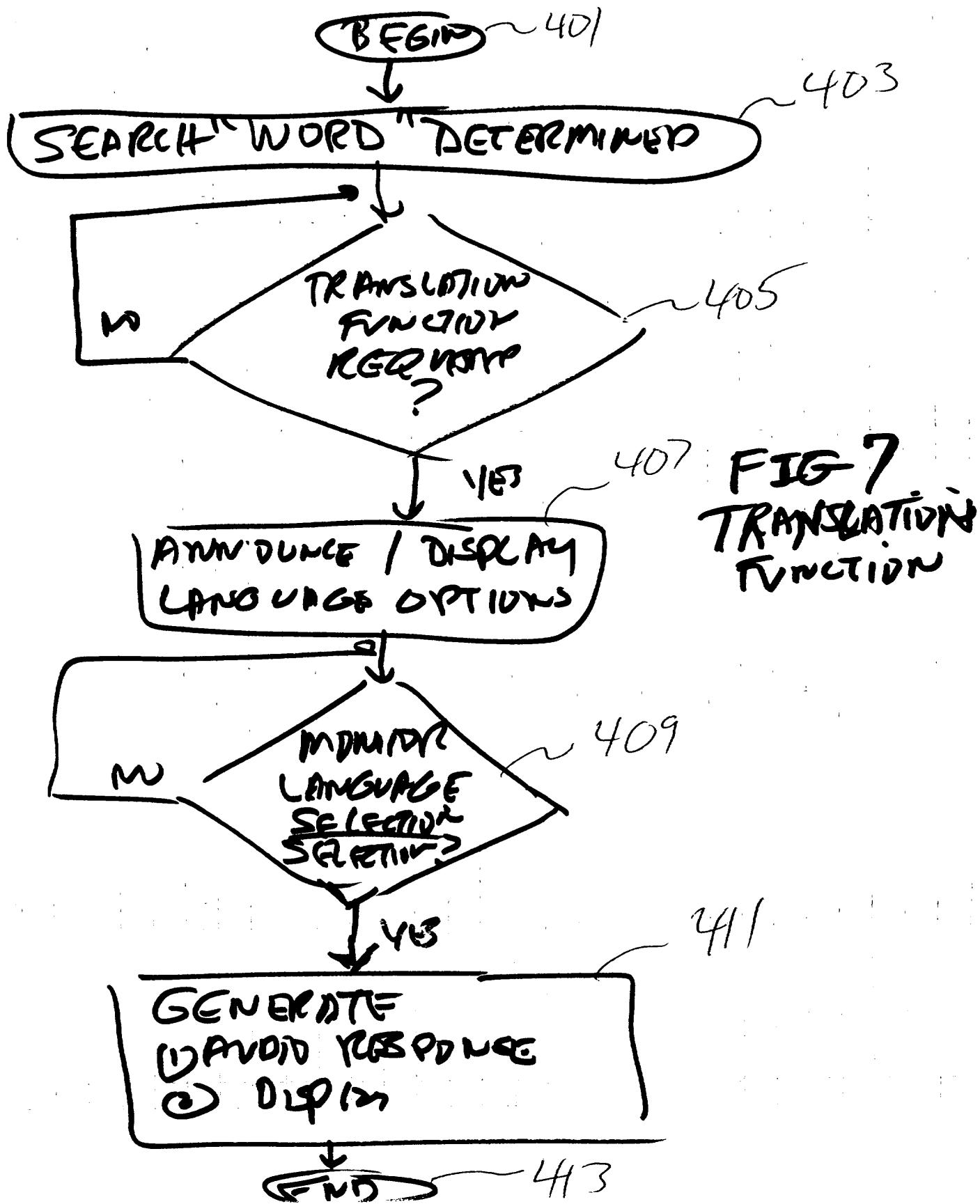


FIG 6  
PAGER  
OPERATION

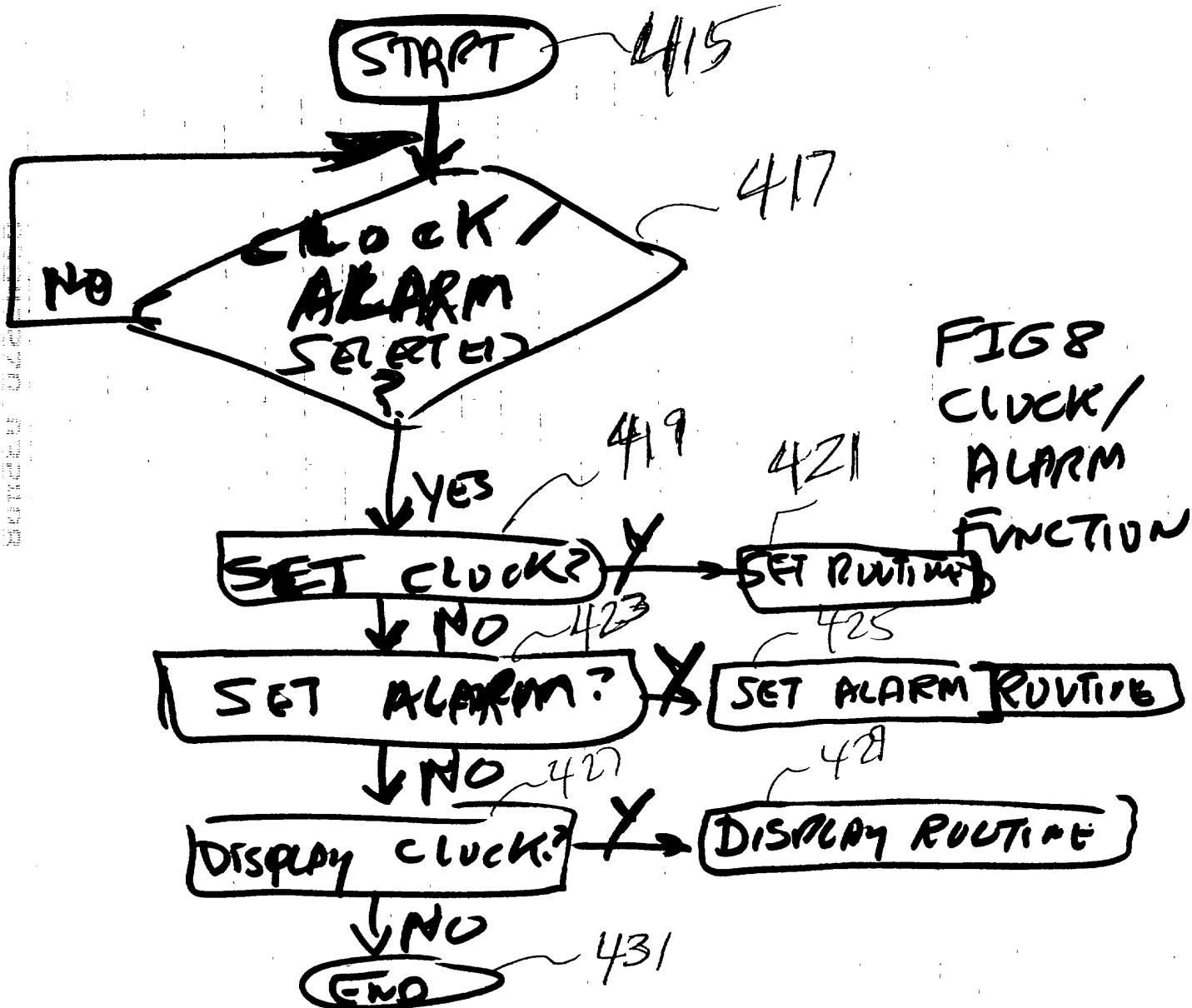
PATENT SKETCH FORM

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PATENT SKETCH FORM

Attorney \_\_\_\_\_



**DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING A HANDHELD  
SCANNER-DICTIONARY APPARATUS**

the specification of which is attached hereto.

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/041,534; filed 25 March 1997, entitled ***Method and Apparatus for Providing a Handheld Scanner-Dictionary Apparatus.***

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby appoint **James E. Bradley, Reg. No. 27,536; Charles D. Gunter, Jr., Reg. No. 29,386; Andrew J. Dillon, Reg. No. 29,634; Melvin A. Hunn, Reg. No. 32,574; Kenneth C. Hill, Reg. No. 29,650;** to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection therewith.

Please send all correspondence to:

Melvin A. Hunn  
FELSMAN, BRADLEY, GUNTER & DILLON  
201 Main Street, Suite 1600  
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-3105  
(817) 332-8143

Inventor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of Sole Inventor: Jan Scott Zwolinski

Date of Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Residence Address: HC 52, Box 831, Graford, Texas 76449

Citizenship: United States of America

Post Office Address: HC 52, Box 831, Graford, Texas 76449

**VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(37 C.F.R. 1.9(f) & 1.27(C))--SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN**

I hereby declare that I am

the owner of the small business concern identified below:  
 an official of the small business concern empowered to act on  
behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN: **Jan Scott Zwolinski**  
ADDRESS OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN: **HC 52, Box 831,  
Graford, Texas 76449**

I hereby declare that the above-identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 C.F.R. 121.12, and reproduced in 37 C.F.R. 1.9 (d), for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention described in:

the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.  
 the application identified above.  
 the patent identified above.

If the rights held by the above-identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights in the invention must file separate verified statements averring to their status as small entities, and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(c) if that person made the invention, or by any concern which

would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(d), or a nonprofit organization under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(e)

Each person, concern or organization having any rights in the invention is listed below:

no such person, concern, or organization exists.  
 each such person, concern or organization is listed below.

FULL NAME:

ADDRESS:

[ ]Individual [ ]Small Business Concern [ ]Nonprofit Organization

Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 C.F.R. 1.27).

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 C.F.R. 1.28 (b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING: Scott J. Pockriss

TITLE OF PERSON IF OTHER THAN OWNER: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING: PO Box 8686 Hinsdale IL 60521

SIGNATURE: Scott J. Pockriss DATE: 3-25-97 28657